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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-01 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 /039 W

----- 045866

R 301855Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8519

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4589

USDAO COPENHAGEN

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCUSAFE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 6059

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: DRC MULTILATERAL REVIEW - DENMARK

REF: A. USNATO 5144 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 5817 (NOTAL)

C. STATE 233747 (NOTAL)

D. AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 2959 (NOTAL)

E. USNATO 6010 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: DRC ON OCTOBER 29 REVIEWED DANISH 1975-1979 FORCE PLANS PRESENTED IN DANISH REPLY TO DPQ(74). DANC DESCRIBED PROGRESS UNDER 1973 DEFENSE ACT AND PRESENTED BRIEFINGS ON NEW VOLUNTEER RECRUITING CAMPAIGN AND REINFORCEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS. DRC REPS' QUESTIONS EMPHASIZED APPARENT PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM INCREASED DANISH RELIANCE ON RESERVISTS AND LIMITED RESERVE TRAINING PROGRAMS AS WELL AS CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES IN BASIC ISSUES AREAS. END SUMMARY.

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1. ASYG HUMPHREYS INTRODUCED OCTOBER 29 DRC MULTILATERAL REVIEW OF DANISH FORCE PLANS BY WELCOMING COPENHAGEN TEAM (HEADED BY MR. WAHL, DIVISION CHIEF, DANISH MOD) AND ASKING DRC TO CONCENTRATE ON POLICY ISSUES, RATHER THAN DETAILS OF FORCE STRUCTURE. HUMPHREYS THEN LEFT

FOR ANOTHER MEETING; ACTING CHAIRMAN BRABAND INTRODUCED REVIEW OF DANISH FORCE PLANS BY COMMENDING THE EXCELLENT QUALITY OF DANISH RESPONSES TO BOTH DPQ(74) AND QUESTIONS RAISED DURING EARLIER TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN COPENHAGEN. DRAWING FROM THE DRAFT COUNTRY

CHAPTER ON DENMARK (DRC/WP(74)5), BRABAND HIGHLIGHTED FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. DANISH DEFENSE ACT (1973) FORMS BASIS FOR EXISTING DANISH FORCE STRUCTURE AND HAS SOMEWHAT DECREASED COMBAT READINESS. CONVERSELY, ACT HAS REVITALIZED SEVERAL EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS AND IMPROVED REGULAR/CONSCRIPT RATION OF DANISH MILITARY PERSONNEL.

B. ARMY SHORTFALLS 1974 COMMITMENT BY TWO INFANTRY BATTALION GROUPS (AVAILABLE END-1975), CONTINUES PLANS FOR DISBANDING HONEST JOHN WEAPON SYSTEM BY END-1975 WITHOUT REPLACEMENT, AND HAS SERIOUS WAR STOCK LEVEL AND RESERVE TRAINING PROGRAM DEFICIENCIES. ARMY MODERNIZATION PLANS INCLUDE 120 LEOPARD A3 MAIN BATTLE TANKS (1976-1978), 68 TOW ANTI-TANK LAUNCHERS TO REPLACE COBRA (1975), AND NEW RIFLES FOR HOME GUARD (1975).

C. NAVY SHORTFALLS 1974 COMMITMENT BY ONE COASTAL ESCORT AND FOUR MINESWEEPERS, BUT HAS TRANSFERRED NINE PATROL CUTTERS FROM NATIONAL COMMAND TO EARMARKED STATUS. NAVY PLANS PROCUREMENT (1975-1981) OF ONE OCEAN ESCORT, TWO COASTAL ESCORTS, TWO COASTAL MINELAYERS, TEN GUIDED MISSILE FAST PATROL BOATS AND EIGHT ATTACK HELICOPTERS.

D. AIR FORCE SHORTFALLS 1974 COMMITMENT BY FIVE TF-35 AND ONE F-100 AIRCRAFT. REFERRING TO MUCH-PUBLICIZED DANISH AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM, BRABAND SAID NATO AUTHORITIES ASSUME REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT WILL NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE DIFFERENT ROLES/MISSIONS THAN EXISTING AIRCRAFT AND ASKED DANES TO CONSULT WITH NATO IF THIS SITUATION CHANGES.

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E. DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING AS A PERCENTAGE OF GNP AND ON A PER CAPITA BASIS RANK TENTH AND SEVENTH RESPECTIVELY AMONG EUROPEAN ALLIES; DANISH GNP PER CAPITA RANKS SECOND IN EUROPE.

2. MILITARY COMMITTEE REP (GEN. VON ZUR GATHEN) NOTED DANISH SHIFT FROM STANDING TO MOBILIZABLE FORCES, PARTICULARLY IN COMLANDJUT AREA, AND SAID LOW RESERVE TRAINING LEVELS INTENSIFIED PROBLEM. GEN. VON ZUR GATHEN SAID ONLY FOURTEEN OF DENMARK'S 57 SHIPS ARE IN CATEGORY A-1 STATUS, CITED EXCESSIVE NAVY RELIANCE ON PERSONNEL RECEIVING ONLY NINE MONTH TRAINING PROGRAM, AND LAMENTED SLIPPAGE IN AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.

3. SHAPE REF (BGEN MILLER) ENDORSED MC COMMENTS ABOUT SLIPPAGES IN DANISH AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM AND EXCESSIVE RELIANCE ON RESERVISTS, PARTICULARLY IN JUTLAND BRIGADES, AND SAID DANISH ARMY NEEDED TO PLACE MORE EMPHASIS ON ORGANIC NUCLEAR CAPABILITY.

4. SACLANT REP (CAPT. MAYO) SAID SACLANT UNDERSTOOD APPARENT DANISH DESIRE TO EMPHASIZE MARITIME FORCES IN BALTIC BUT URGED DANS TO EQUIP FIVE SACLANT-EARMARKED WARSHIPS WITH IMPROVED SELF DEFENSE AND EW CAPABILITIES.

5. DANISH REP (ROSENTHAL) DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY TO ABOVE IS AND MILITARY AUTHORITY COMMENTS, BUT SAID DRAFT COUNTRY CHAPTER (DRC/WP(74)5 DENMARK) WAS GENERALLY FAIR. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO 1974 DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING WHICH HE SAID PROVIDED FULL COMPENSATION FOR INFLATION DESPITE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC CLIMATE. REFERRING TO EARLIER BRABAND FAVORABLE COMMENTS ON TRILATERAL REVIEW IN COPENHAGEN, DANISH MOD REP (WAHL) SUGGESTED THAT DRC ALSO CONSIDER HOLDING MULTILATERALS IN NATIONAL CAPITALS. IN RAMBLING REMARKS, HE DESCRIBED NEW DANISH MINORITY GOVERNMENT AS QUOTE FIGHTING ITS WAY FROM ONE ISSUE TO ANOTHER END QUOTE, REAFFIRMED 1973 DEFENSE ACT AS ONLY POLITICAL ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR DANISH DEFENSE EFFORTS, SAID DANS STRONGLY SUPPORT NATO AND PLAN TO RELY HEAVILY ON COLLECTIVE DEFENSE DURING A CRISIS OR WAR, ADMITTED THAT DEFENSE SPENDING GUIDELINES OF 1973 DEFENSE ACT LIMIT FUTURE MILITARY IMPROVEMENTS, BUT CHARACTERIZED PROJECTED SPENDING PLANS BASED ON THIS ACT AS MORE REALISTIC THAN EARLIER VERSIONS.

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IN THIS REGARD, WAHL SAID 1974 REAL TERM DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING INCREASED BY 3.4 PERCENT AND WOULD CONTINUE REAL ANNUAL INCREASES OF APPROXIMATELY 2 PERCENT IN COMING YEARS WITH EMPHASIS ON MAJOR EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION/PROCUREMENT.

6. DANES PRESENTED BRIEFINGS ON RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS AND REINFORCEMENT PROBLEMS AS SEEN FROM DENMARK (REF B). IS WILL CIRCULATE TEXTS OF BRIEFINGS WHICH MISSION WILL SEND TO WASHINGTON. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

A. RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS. AS A RESULT OF 1973 DEFENSE ACT, DANES DECIDED TO INCREASE VOLUNTEERS FROM 9,500 (1973) TO APPROXIMATELY 15,000 WITHIN THREE TO FOUR YEARS. THEY REPLACED TRADITIONAL RECRUITMENT TECHNIQUES (PRIMARILY NEWSPAPER ADS) WITH SERIES OF PERSONAL LETTERS FROM MOD TO 37,000 YOUNG MEN WHO WOULD REACH SEVENTEENTH BIRTHDAY DURING 1974. LETTER CAMPAIGNS, IN COMBINATION WOULD IMPROVED PAY AND EDUCATION BENEFITS, HAVE INCREASED VOLUNTEERS TO 11,500 AND DANES BELIEVE THEY WILL REACH GOAL OF 15,000 DURING NEXT TWO YEARS. CURRENT VOLUNTEERS SCORE ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE ON INTELLIGENCE/ APTITUDE TESTS.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-01 ACDA-05

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SAJ-01 /039 W

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R 301855Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8520

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4590

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B. REINFORCEMENT PROBLEMS AS SEEN FROM DENMARK.
BRIEFING OFFICER DESCRIBED VARIOUS AUGMENTATION FORCES (INCLUDING ACE MOBILE FORCE, STANAVFORLANT, UK MOBILE FORCE, AND CANADIAN AIR-SEA TRANSPORTABLE GROUP) WHICH ALLIES MIGHT DEPLOY TO DENMARK DURING HOSTILITIES, OUTLINED EXISTING DANISH CAPABILITY TO SUPPORT SUCH FORCES, AND SPECIFIED SEVERAL PROBLEM AREAS. MAJOR PROBLEMS INCLUDED SPARE PARTS/MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FOR LARGE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT AIRCRAFT TYPES AND LACK OF SPACE ON EXISTING AIRBASES. BRIEFING STRESSED IMPORTANCE DANES PLACE ON AUGMENTATION FORCES AND INDICATED THEY ARE CONSIDERING USE OF CIVILIAN AIRPORTS TO RELIEVE CROWDED MILITARY AIRBASES.

7. BRABAND INTRODUCED QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD BY AGAIN ASKING THAT REPS FOCUS ON POLICY QUESTIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO DRC MEMBERS AND RESERVE MORE DETAILED QUESTIONS FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. MC REP SAID THAT IF DANES WERE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH CAPABILITIES TO RESIST AGGRESSION UNTIL REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE, THEY SHOULD PROCURE 200 NEW BATTLE TANKS BY 1980

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AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED) RATHER THAN 120. DANISH REP GAVE NO RESPONSE.

8. US REP (CLINARD) CITED DIFFICULTY IN DETERMINING REAL RATE OF DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING FROM DPQ'74) RESPONSE AND REQUESTED

CLARIFICATION. DANISH REP SAID THEY ADJUSTED DEFENSE BUDGET EACH FALL TO COVER INCREASED INFLATIONARY COSTS FOR BOTH PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT. US REP ASKED IF DANES PLANNED TO IMPROVE INTER-OPERABILITY OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH OTHER ALLIED FORCES AND AMONG DANISH LAND, SEA

,
AND AIR ELEMENTS. DANISH REP SAID THEY WERE CONSIDERING, BUT HAD NOT FORMALLY REQUESTED, USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS TO COVER INTERFACE PROBLEM BETWEEN FRG AND DANISH RADIO EQUIPMENT IN COMLANDJUT. HE SAID DANISH MILITARY WAS NOT AWARE OF OTHER INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS INTER-OPERABILITY PROBLEMS. US REP ASKED IF SECURITY FORCES CITED IN TABLE II OF THE DPQ(74) RESPONSE WERE HOME GUARD PERSONNEL NOT REPEAT NOT ON ACTIVE DUTY. DANISH REP SAID YES. US REP SUPPORTED PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED MC CONCERNS ABOUT LOW RESERVE TRAINING LEVELS AND URGED DANES TO RECTIFY APPARENT DEFICIENCIES IN SEVERAL BASIC ISSUE AREAS, PARTICULARLY WAR RESERVES, ELECTRONIC WARFARE, IMPROVED AIR MUNITIONS AND MOBILE AIR DEFENSE. MISSION COMMENT: PRIOR TO DRC, MISSION FURNISHED DANES WITH WRITTEN QUESTIONS DRAWN FROM REFS A AND C. DANISH REP SAID HE WOULD PROVIDE INFORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSES WHICH MISSION WILL FORWARD IF THEY SUBSTANTIVELY ADD TO DRC DISCUSSION. IN VIEW OF BRABAND'S EMPHASIS ON POLICY-ORIENTED QUESTIONS,
US REP DID NOT PURSUE DETAILED RESPONSES TO ALL US QUESTIONS DURING DRC.

END COMMENT.

9. REFERRING TO DRC MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DISCUSSIONS, NORWEGIAN REP (LEINE) ASKED WHY DANES SUPPORTED RESOURCE GUIDANCE ALTERNATIVE CALLING

FOR INCREASED DEFENSE SPENDING AS A PROPORTION OF GNP WHEN DANISH SPENDING PLANS PRECLUDED SATISFACTION OF THIS OBJECTIVE. DANISH REP SAID THEY HAD ONLY TENTATIVELY SUPPORTED THAT ALTERNATIVE AS THE BEST AVAILABLE AT THE TIME. HE ADDED THAT THEY MIGHT SUPPORT OTHER ALTERNATIVES IN THE FUTURE, SUCH AS THAT RECENTLY PROPOSED BY ITALY (REF E).

10. BELGIAN REP (TAYMENS) ASKED IF DANISH VOLUNTEER RECRUITS WERE
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ALLOWED TO CHOOSE AMONG SERVICES. DANISH REP SAID THEY WERE AND ADDED THAT, TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, RECRUITS WERE ALSO ALLOWED TO STIPULATE PREFERRED FUNCTIONAL AREAS WITHIN SERVICE. BELGIAN REP ASKED WHETHER DANES WOULD NEED TO MOBILIZE TROOPS IN BALTAP TO ADEQUATELY SUPPORT INCOMING REINFORCEMENTS. DANISH REP SAID THEY PLANNED TO CALL UP RESERVES FOR THIS PURPOSE WHEN NATO DECLARED A STATE
OF MILITARY VIGILANCE.

11. CANADIAN REP (SHEFFIELD) ASKED IF CALLING UP RESERVES FOR TRAINING REQUIRED APPROVAL BY DANISH PARLIAMENT. DANISH REP SAID PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL WAS NOT REPEAT NOT REQUIRED FOR RESERVE TRAINING
PROGRAMS BUT WAS REQUIRED FOR MOBILIZATION.

12. BRABAND CITED ONGOING MILITARY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF REVISED DEFINITIONS FOR ASSIGNED AND EARMARKED FORCES AND ASKED WHETHER SUCH REVISION WOULD ALTER DANISH REQUIREMENT THAT PARLIAMENT WITHHOLD APPROVAL FOR TRANSFER OF FORCES FROM EARMARKED TO ASSIGNED STATUS UNTIL AFTER ACTUAL CRISIS OR WAR STARTED. DANISH REP SAID DANES MIGHT QUOTE RETHINK UNQUOTE QUESTION WHEN AND IF NATO AUTHORITIES APPROVE REVISED DEFINITIONS.

13. SHAPE REP ASKED IF JUTLAND DIVISION REQUIRED MOBILIZATION TO REACH WAR-AUTHORIZED STRENGTH (WAS). DANISH REP SAID YES. ACTING CHAIRMAN INTERJECTED THAT DANES CURRENTLY MAN JUTLAND DIVISION AT 30 PERCENT WAS. SHAPE REP ASKED IF JUTLAND RESERVISTS HAVE EVER TRAINED TOGETHER AS INTEGRATED BATTALIONS AND BRIGADES. DANISH REP INITIALLY SAID THEY HAD NOT, BUT THEN REVISED HIS ANSWER BY DESCRIBING QUOTE MUSTER EXERCISES END QUOTE WHICH HE SAID INCLUDED FIELD TRAINING AT BATTALION LEVEL FOR PERIODS OF 7 TO 13 DAYS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM SHAPE REP, HE SAID ALL BATTALIONS DID NOT RECEIVE SUCH TRAINING ANNUALLY. SHAPE REP ASKED DANES TO INCLUDE TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR JUTLAND RESERVISTS IN NEXT DPQ RESPONSE AND RECOMMENDED THEY CONSIDER INCREASED DEFENSE SPENDING TO IMPROVE SUCH TRAINING. DANISH REP SAID STANDING JUTLAND FORCES POSSESSED LIMITED COMBAT CAPABILITY EVEN WITHOUT PARLIAMENTARY-APPROVED MOBILIZATION WHICH APPLIED MAINLY TO LOGISTICS AND OTHER NON-COMBAT PERSONNEL. MCAULIFFE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO06059
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741091/abbryyev.tel
Line Count: 298
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 5144 (NOTAL) B. USNATO 5817 (NOTAL) C. STATE 233747 (NOTAL) D. AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 2959 (NOTAL)
E. USNATO 6010 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRC MULTILATERAL REVIEW - DENMARK
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USDAO COPENHAGEN
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT

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Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005